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MEMORIAL

OF

SILAS W. CHAPPELL

PHILADELPHIA :
WILLIAM H. PILE'S SONS, PRINTERS

1928

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MEMORIAL

OF

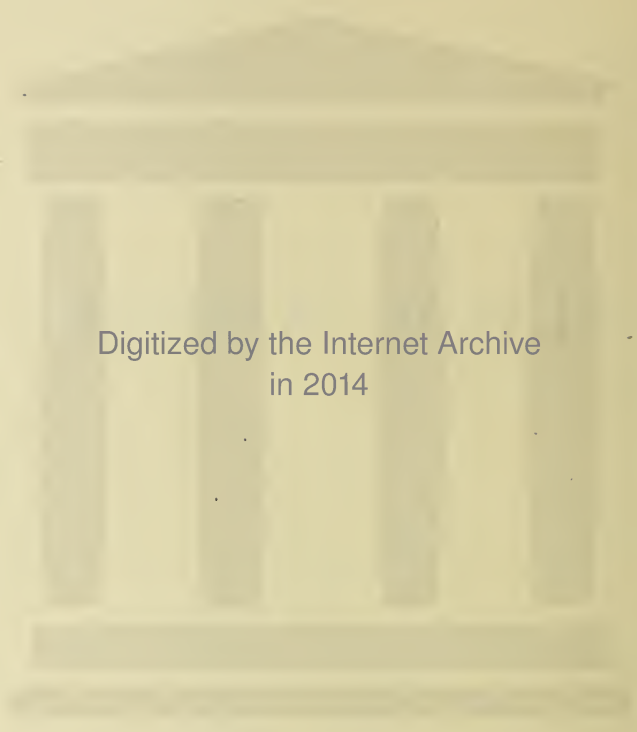
SILAS W. CHAPPELL

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MEMORIAL.

A Memorial issued by Piney Woods Monthly Meeting of Friends, concerning SILAS W. CHAPPELL, a Minister, deceased.

“They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed but abideth forever.” (Psalms 125, first verse.)

In following closely the life work of our departed brother and humble servant of the Lord, Silas W. Chappell, we can but feel the above quotation to be fittingly applicable, being fully persuaded that of him it could be truthfully said, he looked not to the ways of his own understanding, but his faith and confidence were ever in the Lord, “Whom to know is life eternal.”

Silas W. Chappell was the son of Silas and Elizabeth Chappell and was born First Month 17, 1844, near Belvidere, N. C. During youth he was a sturdy and deeply concerned boy and experienced a change of heart at an early age. Soon afterward he felt that he should bear testimony to the Saving power of the Merciful Savior. Being obedient to this apprehended duty, throughout his long life, he experienced great peace of mind relative thereto. Others in the younger walks of life seeing his good works, frequently sought

his advice, some of these he was instrumental in winning over to the cause of Truth.

Silas lost his father by death, during infancy. This left his mother with the care of several children. She found the rearing of her family called forth much anxiety and toil, with but few of the comforts of life, yet she was ever hopeful and prayerful, striving earnestly to discharge her duty not only in an outward sense, but spiritual as well. Her trust was ever in God to sustain her in her endeavor to train her children in the way of righteousness. To this Christian training Silas often referred with a beautiful degree of appreciation. He attributed much of his success through life to the example and timely advice of a loving and thoughtful mother and as such he desired faithfully to follow in her footsteps.

He was privileged to attend New Garden Boarding School (now Guilford College, N. C.), and endeavored to put into practice the religious as well as the secular instructions received at this place. Silas remained at the old homestead, with his widowed mother, and all through life made this place his home.

On First Month 18, 1872, he was united in marriage to Elmira J. Boyce, with whom he lived in happy wedlock for fifty-six years and who preceded him to the Great Beyond just one year and twelve days. They reared a family of eight children, all of whom live to testify to the beautiful Christian training received from their loving and deeply concerned parents. In this connection the parents with their

dear children experienced the beautiful reality that "Godliness with contentment is great gain." One of his daughters says of him, "Father was strict with his children, but ever administered reproof with the spirit of love and we, his children, remember him only as a kind and loving father, who with dear mother's thoughtfulness in lending him a helping hand, was ever mindful to train their children in the admonition and fear of the Lord." She further says, "Many times when there seemed to be no way open for them to accomplish apprehended duties, most especially when Father felt called out on missions for the Lord, there was a way provided for them and joy and peace of mind were their portion."

The guidance in judgment and the teaching of the way promised by our dear Lord to the meek and lowly in heart was strikingly exemplified in the life of this dear father.

Says one of a fatherless family of eight living near him, "He took a father's place in our home, he and his good wife looked after us, always coming to our rescue in time of need. We looked to him as our father and felt free to call on him for advice. He never failed to do all in his power to help us in every way he could, not only from a material standpoint but a spiritual as well. He set a good example for us to follow."

As Silas advanced in years he became more and more alarmed over the many things to draw the people away from Christ, and his petition often went up in their behalf.

He was not recorded a minister until past middle age. He occupied this station a little more than twenty-three and one-half years. He ever retained a meek and lowly spirit, preferring others to himself, which won for him the happy possession of the ornaments relative thereto and which, in the sight of God is of great price. His ministry was ever characterized by words of praise and thanksgiving to his Heavenly Father in whom we believe he delighted to dwell.

His ministerial labors being mostly confined within the limits of his own Yearly Meeting, very rarely do we have it recorded of him being called to other fields of labor.

He was faithful in the attendance of all his religious meetings, until within a few months of his death, when his bodily strength so failed him that he was obliged to remain at home. His interest in his little meeting continued to live with him, and he encouraged those about him to faithfulness, in this particular, ever advising that they endeavor to keep up the meeting as long as possible. After being confined to his bed, he would address those about him with the same old, old story, "Jesus and his love," tenderly instructing each one to accept the blessed invitation of the dear Saviour, who says, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Once when in the younger walks of life, on passing

a farm home one day, Silas felt impressed to enter, but was rebellious and went on his way. Soon thereafter he learned that at that particular time, a person in that home was near death with no one to administer to her need. This act of disobedience caused him much regret throughout life.

During the last few days of lingering, prior to his death, so long as strength was available, he continued to praise God for His goodness and unmerited mercy all along life's journey, often expressing the desire that he might peacefully pass away.

This prayer was answered in a striking manner, near seven-thirty o'clock A. M., First Month 13, 1928, he being eighty-three years, eleven months and twenty-six days old.

His funeral, a very large and impressive one was held at Snow Hill Meeting-house, on First Month 14, 1928, after the manner of Friends, of which branch of the Church he was a life long member and his remains placed in the family burying ground near by.

We believe his is an inheritance, incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for those who are kept by the power of God, through faith unto Salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time.

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